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R.

THE BURSLEM SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

President,

SMITH CHILD, Esq., M.P.

Vice-Presidents,

W. DAVENPORT, Esq.
E. WOOD, Esq.

H. H. WILLIAMSON, Esq.
N. P. WOOD, Esq.

R. H. HAYWOOD, Esq.

At the SECOND ANNUAL MEETING of the BURSLEM GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OF DESIGN, held in the WESLEYAN SCHOOL Room, on Friday evening, the 28th of September, 1855,

C. B. ADDERLEY, Esq., M.P.,

IN THE CHAIR;

The following Resolutions were submitted to the Meeting, and passed unanimously:—

Moved by the Rev. C. HEBERT, M.A.
Seconded by H. MINTON, Esq.

1.—That the Report and Statement of Accounts now read be adopted, and printed for circulation.

Moved by JOHN EDENSOR HEATHCOTE, Esq.
Seconded by the Rev. J. TINDALL.

2.—That the gratifying progress that has been made by the Students of this School during the last year, affords encouragement to the Committee and Subscribers to continue their efforts for its future efficiency and support.

Moved by the Rev. T. A. BAYLEY.
Seconded by GEORGE BAKER, Esq.

3.—That the thanks of the Meeting be given to the various Officers and Committee for their services during the past year; and that the Committee for the ensuing year be constituted as follows, viz.:—

Chairman—Mr. THOMAS PINDER.

Honorary Secretary—Mr. JOS MAYER.

Acting Secretary—Mr. W. J. MUCKLEY.

Treasurers—Messrs. J. J. & G. ALCOCK.

Committee,

Rev. C. HEBERT, M.A.
Mr. J. EDWARDS,
" S. ALCOCK,
" JOS. EDGE,
" B. CORK,
" J. VERNON,

Mr. J. HOPE,
" H. HOPKINS,
" J. MADDOCK,
" W. T. BARKER,
" JOS. WALKER,
" SAMUEL GODDARD.

C. B. ADDERLEY, CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman having vacated the Chair, it was taken by JOHN E. HEATHCOTE, Esq., when the following Resolution was passed by acclamation:—

Moved by JOHN MADDOCK, Esq.
Seconded by THOMAS PINDER, Esq.

4.—That the best thanks of the Meeting be given to C. B. ADDERLEY, Esq., M.P., for the able manner with which he has conducted the business of the evening.

J. E. HEATHCOTE.

REPORT.

THE Committee, in presenting to the Subscribers their second Report of the present condition of the Burslem School of Design, are gratified in being able to announce a degree of progressive improvement and success which has far exceeded their expectations, although formed upon previous results of the most encouraging character, and to which it was their pleasure to refer on a former occasion.

The number of Students on the books is fifty-six. It will be observed that this number is less than that reported at the last anniversary, and the diminution is a source of some regret to your Committee; still they are not discouraged by this circumstance, as such a result is not specially remarkable. The depressing decline of trade throughout the district, and the consequent privation to which many families must have been subject, resulting from straitened pecuniary resources, will partly account for the numerical condition of the School. Another cause of *apparent* decline is to be found in the Institution having ceased to be a source of attraction from its novelty—a principle which in this, as in other Institutions, is influential in securing a few members who, when the cause of their union has passed away, gradually withdraw, and thus terminate a connection formed on such slight and insufficient grounds. The Students remaining may therefore be considered as having intelligently appreciated the advantages they enjoy, and thereby cemented a union which promises to be permanent.

The number of Pupils from the Day Schools is encouraging, and the best results may be expected from their connection with the Central School. In most instances the respective Masters make a judicious selection of Scholars who attend for instruction at the Central School, and thereby enjoy the undoubted advantage of access to the excellent and varied examples of artistic skill and ability with which the School is so liberally furnished; and they are thus brought under the more direct and regular oversight and training of the talented Master. If the same course were observed by each of the Day Schools, the Committee are of opinion that the advantages to the Students would be much greater than that recorded, as more time and attention would be given to those who have the taste and talent requisite for the advantageous pursuit of artistic studies. The improvement made by the Students in one or two of these Schools has been most decided, and is entitled to distinct reference and commendation in this Report. The character of the works exhibited, and the favourable notice which they have obtained at the department of practical art, fully sustain the opinion your Committee have ventured to express.

The financial condition of the School is on the whole satisfactory, and your Committee have hitherto been able to fulfil their pecuniary obligations without difficulty; still the funds placed at their disposal are inadequate to the maintenance of the Institution in that degree of efficiency which it is their anxious desire it should possess. The withdrawal of the Government Grant has been a serious loss, as it has prevented the formation of a number of classes necessary to constitute a complete system of art education, and essential to qualify the Students for the requirements of the various branches of trade and industry in which they will eventually have to engage.

The progress made by the Students in their studies will be best understood by stating, that a larger number of their works were purchased by the department than from any similar School; and in one instance the unparalleled award of six medals was made to a Student who continues to sustain the high position he has achieved. Your Committee may safely direct attention to the Specimens exhibited at your Annual Meeting, in proof of the correctness of the judgment formed, both here and in London, of the merit of the works executed by the Students. Still the Specimens produced are scarcely a fair representation of the real character of the ability of the School, as a great number of the best productions have been purchased and retained by the department for exhibition in other places.

Your Committee indulge the hope that the encouraging aspect which they have been enabled to present of the gratifying position of the School, will have the happy effect of stimulating the friends and Subscribers to more vigorous efforts, and to a continued and increased liberality for its still greater prosperity. As a means of creating and keeping up a healthy rivalry among the Scholars, and as a reward for superior merit, they have decided to award to those Students who have specially distinguished themselves by their works, a number of Prizes, several of which are of considerable value, and all of real interest and utility.

If these Schools throughout the country met with the support and encouragement to which they are entitled, your Committee are convinced they would be productive of immense general importance to the community, as their advantages would not be confined merely to the requirements of trade and manufacture, but applicable to the wants and enjoyments of common life. To the lamentable ignorance of the scientific principles of art, which has so long and largely prevailed, may be referred the necessity which exists for calling into requisition the services of foreign artists. This incompetency on the part of English workmen, generally, to undertake and execute designs and works which require the aid, to any extent, of art knowledge, has existed to the disparagement of their position and interests; and the continuance of this neglect, either by Masters or Workmen, would undoubtedly lead ere long to the displacement of British men and manufactures, and the substitution of the genius and products of our more persevering and successful Continental rivals.

Your Committee cannot conclude this Report without earnestly pressing the claims of the Institution upon your generous countenance and continued support. They feel assured from your past history and enlightenment, that you will not permit this important and beneficial object to fail for want of pecuniary assistance, and thereby realize the morbid anticipations of those who so confidently predict its dissolution. Your pride and patriotism must prevent so ignoble a result, which in the end would be as damaging to your interests as it would be derogatory to your honour. They regard these Schools as eminently calculated to refine the manners, elevate the taste and improve the morals of the Students, by creating habits of steady application and mental discipline;—and by removing them from contact with associates who would corrupt by the influence of a vicious example, or pollute their minds by still more vicious principles. With such results, as the fruit of this and kindred Institutions, your Committee confidently calculate upon the co-operation of every true philanthropist and enlightened citizen. They feel assured that no man can properly claim an immunity of exemption from the duty of caring for others as well as himself, while he enjoys the benefit of those social arrangements which are the boast and blessing of his age and country. It is not only the teaching of the highest authority, but the dictate of daily experience and sound wisdom, that “no man liveth unto himself;” but that every man is bound by his relations, dependencies, and responsibilities—by the purity of his example, the prudence of his counsels, and the vigour of his efforts, to endeavour to leave the world better than he found it.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
E. Wood, Esq.	10 10 0	Mr. T. Wardle	1 1 0
Messrs. W. Davenport & Co.	10 10 0	Messrs. Cox & Smith	1 1 0
„ S. Alcock & Co.	10 10 0	Mr. S. Bowering	1 1 0
„ J. Edwards & Son	10 10 0	John Ward, Esq.	1 1 0
„ Pinder, Bourne & Hope	10 10 0	Mr. Marsh	1 1 0
J. Alcock, Esq.	10 10 0	„ W. Ford	1 1 0
Messrs. T. J. & J. Mayer	10 10 0	„ A. Collinson	1 1 0
J. Pidduck, Esq.	5 5 0	„ John Walker, Tunstall	1 1 0
Thomas Godwin, Esq.	5 5 0	C. Keeling, Esq.	1 1 0
Messrs. Cork & Edge	5 5 0	J. Walker, Esq.	1 1 0
„ C. & J. May	5 5 0	Messrs. B. Taylor & Co.	1 1 0
J. Vernon, Esq.	5 5 0	Thomas Whittingham, Esq.	1 1 0
J. L. Ricardo, Esq., M.P.	5 5 0	J. M. Harrison, Esq.	0 10 6
Messrs. W. Barker & Son	5 5 0	Mr. T. Blackshaw	0 10 6
R. H. Haywood, Esq.	5 0 0	„ R. C. Bates	0 10 6
Messrs. Till & Son	3 0 0	„ E. Oswald	0 10 6
Rev. C. Hebert, M.A.	2 2 0	„ J. Lowndes	0 10 6
Messrs. Evans & Askin	2 2 0	„ H. Hopkins	0 10 0
J. Maddock, Esq.	2 2 0	„ J. Knight	0 10 0
D. Ball, Esq. (two years)	2 2 0	„ R. H. Jolly	0 10 0
Mr. T. Beardmore	1 1 0	„ G. Slater, Sen.	0 10 0
Thomas Massey, Esq.	1 1 0	„ John Ford	0 10 0
Mr. T. Massey	1 1 0	„ A. W. Wildblood	0 10 0
„ S. Edge	1 1 0	„ W. Eley	0 5 0
„ W. Dixon	1 1 0	„ W. Mandley	0 5 0
„ E. Keates	1 1 0	„ R. Timmis	0 5 0
„ John Buckley	1 1 0	„ J. Corbett	0 5 0
S. Goddard, Esq.	1 1 0	„ L. Salisbury	0 5 0
Mr. J. Clarke	1 1 0		
„ J. Dean	1 1 0		£157 13 6
„ R. Boughton	1 1 0		

Dr.

The Treasurer's Account from May 1st, 1854, to May 1st, 1855.

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	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Subscriptions	157 13 6	By Master's Salary	205 0 0
„ Government Grant for first year	40 0 0	„ Rent	15 0 0
„ Tunstall Wesleyan School	20 0 0	„ Burslem and Tunstall Gas Company ..	15 4 11
„ Burslem	5 0 0	„ New Desks, Picture Frames, & Alterations	38 9 0
„ Burslem National ”	5 0 0	„ Printing	12 3 3
„ Students' Fees	51 16 0	„ Attendant's Salary	9 15 0
„ Balance	33 5 4	„ Cleaning Room, Postage, Carriage, and } Incidental Expenses	17 2 8
	£312 14 10		£312 14 10

Assets and Liabilities, September 28th, 1855.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Students' Fees in hand	16 11 3	By Balance due to Treasurer ..	36 17 4
„ Due from Public Schools	15 0 0	„ Stationery	10 0 0
„ Subscriptions due	10 10 0		
„ Balance	4 16 1		£46 17 4
	£46 17 4		

Examined and found correct—Hy. HOPKINS, AUDITOR.

Burden
1855.



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MAY 15
1855

Box IV, 97 E

97 E Box 0096



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Ed. Cole Esq. of P. B.
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Burden

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